

## PANAMA AGENTS HAVE A THREAT.

Declare They'll Sell the Canal to the Powers, if Not to Uncle Sam.

LAST ACT IN THEIR PLOT. A DEMOCRATIC LEADER.

Russia, Germany, Austria and France, They Say, Are Ready to Take Their Ditch.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The Panama Canal Company is preparing to play its last card in its game to prevent the building of the Nicaragua Canal.

At some stage in the consideration of the canal subject in the House the Panama people will submit a proposition to the United States Government, of which the following will be the principal features:

1. That the United States purchase a controlling interest in the Panama Canal.

2. That no money shall be paid for that interest, but that the United States shall, for any other purpose in connection therewith, actually completed and is ready for business.

3. That the new Panama Canal Company pledges itself to complete the canal with the funds at present at its disposal and without the assistance of the United States, within ten years at the maximum.

As a threat, the Panama people will announce that unless the United States desires to obtain the controlling interest in the Panama Canal, they will be constrained to accept a proposition that has been made to them jointly by four of the great European powers, Russia, France, Germany and Austria, whereby the canal will be vested in those countries.

This latter proposition means that unless the canal is controlled by the United States it will be placed in the hands of the four governments most inimical to the interests of the United States and Great Britain. The United States already has a treaty with Colombia by the terms of which the neutral rights of canal crossing her territory in Panama is assured, so that the threat of Russia, France, Germany and Austria securing the control of the Panama Canal indicates little real danger from that source.

## THE PRESIDENT QUITE WELL AND ENTERTAINS.

He and Mrs. McKinley Give a Dinner in Honor of the Supreme Court Judges.

The rumor of President McKinley's breakdown was effectually disposed of by the fact that he and Mrs. McKinley gave a dinner at the White House to-night in honor of the United States Supreme Court, many guests being invited to meet them.

Elaborate floral decorations beautified the East Room and the long corridor where the table was set.

Among those present, besides the Judges and their wives, were the Vice-President, Mr. and Mrs. Hobart, Senator and Mrs. Platt of New York; Senator and Mrs. Bates, Senator and Mrs. Hawley, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Macveagh, Mrs. Stanley Matthews, Mrs. H. S. Beale, Miss Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dana.

## PORTO RICO'S TRADE WANT.

Free Trade and Closer Union Is the Island's Motto.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Feb. 1.—Great interest is taken in the action of Congress and of the Government departments at Washington regarding Porto Rico. The new tariff is awaited with much anxiety, interest being centered upon the course of the United States regarding the admission of Porto Rican sugar and tobacco free of duty.

It is contended that, if the duty should be taken off, the island would not only be the most prosperous in the tropics, but would become a source of large revenue to the American Government.

Even the establishment of a fixed rate of exchange would not help much, apart from this all-important concession.

Free trade and more intimate union with the United States—this is the motto of the Porto Rican, and he may be expected to give a civil government as the quickest and most effective means of Americanizing the island and of securing its proper development.

## STEAMSHIP RHYLAND IS HARD AGROUND.

The Transatlantic Liner Goes Ashore on Cotton Patch Shoal, Near Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Feb. 1.—The transatlantic liner Rhyland, Captain Hannan, from Liverpool for this port, went ashore on Cotton Patch Shoal, about four miles north of Fenwick's Island Life-Saving Station, during last night's storm. At a late hour to-night she was still stranded, but lay in an easy position, and it was hoped to get her off with the next high tide.

The tug America went to her assistance this morning and succeeded in moving her a short distance. Later in the day the tug went to the Delaware Breakwater and brought back the lighter Lottie.

Part of the steamer's cargo will be taken off, and when this has been done there is little doubt that she will be floated. The Rhyland's propeller is broken, and it is thought that her cutter has been carried away.

There are forty-two passengers and a crew of seventy-nine men on board, and all are well.

## PRESIDENT WANTS THE EGAN TRIAL RECORD.

Counsel Given Until Noon To-day to File His Proposed Supplementary Plea.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Judge Advocate General Lieber has given General Egan's counsel until noon to-morrow to file his proposed supplementary plea in behalf of the accused. This is regarded as a plain intimation that instructions have been received from the President to get the record before him at the earliest possible moment.

The law officers are not willing to risk an opinion as to the propriety of such a course. It is too late, they say, to take exceptions to the record. The only lines of action open to the counsel for the accused is to move for a new trial on the ground of testimony discovered after the trial, or to submit reasons why the verdict of the court should be modified. The latter is believed to be the purpose of General Worthington. It is not improbable that, with his own plea as counsel, he may file petitions to go up with the case to the President.

## Swabian War Celebration.

Grabenau, Feb. 1.—The Swiss canton of Grabenau will celebrate the coming Spring the four hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Chalvina, or Chav. This episode of the Swabian war, in which the leagues of Grabenau, commanded by Count Ulrich, defeated the Imperialist troops under the Emperor Maximilian, is commemorated by an open air historical play. The al fresco drama will be of a very different character, and it is expected to be the principal historical fete of the present year.

## KANE INDICTED IN A GREAT HURRY.

His Lawyer Calls Attention to the Politics Behind It.

INDICTMENTS AGAINST REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS ARE ALLOWED TO SLEEP.

The Kings County Grand Jury brought in an indictment against James Kane, Commissioner of Sewers, yesterday, charging him with auditing and passing false and exorbitant bills of George Cunningham, who has the contract for cleaning the sewer basins in the Borough of Brooklyn.

Kane is a Brooklyn man, one of the famous "Big Four" in Kings County politics. The Commissioner was notified of his indictment and voluntarily appeared before Judge Aspinall in the afternoon. Bail was fixed at \$5,000 and was promptly furnished by James Dunn, a former keeper of the City Hall and one of Kane's constituents.

The complaint on which Kane has been indicted is an old story. The Brooklyn League, composed of wealthy taxpayers, has been working up the evidence for six months. The charge is that George Cunningham has been receiving \$6 for cleaning each sewer basin, whereas he did the same work under Mayor Schermer for \$1.15 each.

Cunningham's bills were audited and passed by Commissioner Kane. It is alleged. They are held up by Comptroller Coler. On these bills Cunningham claims the city is indebted.

John G. Judge, counsel for Kane, criticized the action of District Attorney Steele yesterday before the Grand Jury so promptly. Two days before he was appointed District Attorney Mr. Steele resigned from the Brooklyn Bar, and was one of the active members of that organization when it decided to proceed against Kane.

Mr. Judge said it was poor taste on the part of the new District Attorney to hurry up the case against Kane when there was so much work to be done in connection with the trial of the indicted Republicans who were city officials under Mayor Wampler.

It is known that all the evidence in the Kane case was in shape for submission to the Grand Jury before District Attorney Marvan resigned, but the League preferred to sit in abeyance until Governor Roosevelt's appointment should be in the District Attorney's office.

Commissioner Kane has always lived in Brooklyn and has a clean record. He is the leader of the Sixth Ward, and was the choice of the Kings County Democracy for appointment to his present position.

Should he be convicted he will be liable to imprisonment for one year.

## SEALED VERDICT IN THE HESS LIBEL SUIT.

It Will Be Announced by Justice Furman in Court This Morning.

The jury in the trial of the suit of Charles A. Hess against the New York Press for \$50,000 damages for alleged libel brought in a sealed verdict at 7 o'clock last night. The verdict will be opened this morning.

Justice Furman, in his charge to the jury, reviewed the evidence in this way: "Mr. Hess has been charged with having bought a Congressional nomination for \$50,000. Mr. Elstner has affirmed this charge. Mr. Hess has denied it. Mr. Anna Thornton has testified that Mr. Hess agreed to meet campaign expenses. H. E. Broome has testified that Mr. Hess paid \$25 for each election district for work in the Congressional fight. A man may hire vehicles to convey voters to the polls. It is contended that, if the duty should be taken off, the island would not only be the most prosperous in the tropics, but would become a source of large revenue to the American Government.

These articles of the newspaper charge that 'Hess is not a Republican.' This is not a libel in itself. But when the printed articles in a sealed verdict at 7 o'clock last night. The verdict will be opened this morning.

## REARRANGEMENT OF SENATE COMMITTEES.

Changes Were Made Necessary by the Death of Senator Morrill.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The Committee on Committees of the Republican caucus of the Senate to-day agreed upon the rearrangement of committee assignments made necessary by the death of Senator Morrill. Senator Aldrich succeeds to the chairmanship of the Committee on Finance and Senator Platt, of New York, to the vacancy on the committee. Senator Spooner succeeds Senator Aldrich as chairman of the Committee on Rules. Senator Hanna succeeds Senator Spooner as chairman of the Committee on Relations with Canada.

Mr. Ross, the new Senator from Vermont, is to be assigned to the Committee on Territories, Edward Brooke, of Massachusetts, to the Committee on Appropriations, and Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, to the Committee on Territories, and other minor changes are made.

## SCARLET FEVER ON THE CRUISER NEW YORK.

Visitors Brought the Disease Aboard, but It Is Now Under Control.

There have been four cases of scarlet fever, contracted from some visitor on ship, on the flagship New York, at the Navy Yard, during the past ten days. The patients have been isolated, and no further spread of the disease is anticipated. One case resulted fatally.

The first person taken sick was an apprentice, Huber. He was taken to the Navy Yard Hospital on January 21.

Frank Soule, nineteen years old, was the next victim. The disease in his case developed into a violent form, and he died on January 26.

On Sunday a Japanese steward was taken to the hospital, and last night P. Devine, a cook, was taken there.

Visitors are barred from the ship at present as a precautionary measure, and it is probable that to-day the New York will be removed to the Tompkinsville station.

## Fear the Strikers' Torch.

Colon, Colombia, Feb. 1.—The strike conditions do not improve. To-day the whole city has been under military guard.

Everywhere, for fears are entertained on all sides that the striking dockmen and railway employees are awaiting an opportunity to fire the city.

This morning a proclamation was issued forbidding the assembling together in public places of more than three persons under pain of imprisonment.

## TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Imitate Bromo Quinine Tablets. All drug stores sell them. Beware of cheap imitations. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

## SIXTY-NINTH MEN OWN THE TOWN.

Records Broken by the Rapidity with Which They Are Mustered Out.

SURPRISE FOR M'CRYSTAL.

Men of Company L Give Their Captain a Gold Watch and a Feast.

The Sixty-ninth Regiment still owned New York yesterday. The enthusiastic reception given to them under the Journal's auspices on their arrival on Monday, which included bands and fireworks, was continued by the public, which could not extend too much hospitality to any man with the magic number "69" on his hat.

The regiment was mustered out within twenty-four hours of its arrival, a record breaking feat as far as the War Department is concerned. The sum of \$75,000 was distributed among the men and they returned to their homes in a body.

The good fellowship that prevails throughout the regiment and the perfect friendship between the officers and men were shown by a happy little reunion of Company L at No. 252 Avenue A yesterday afternoon. The men presented to their captain, William McCrystal, a fine gold watch with a chain, and a letter from the regiment.

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## PARKHURST DOES NOT TALK, HE ACTS.

Therefore He Refuses to Tell About His New Crusade Against Crime.

ACTION ALREADY TAKEN.

Evidence That New York Is "Wide Open" Has Been Forwarded to Roosevelt.

"With respect to the work of the Society for the Prevention of Crime it is my habit to act, not to talk. I have talked to no one for the society, and shall not do so. Any statement purporting to come from me on that subject is spurious."—Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst to the Journal.

The statement of the superintendent of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, printed exclusively in the Journal yesterday, declaring that New York was "wider open" than ever before and that the executive committee had decided upon a second crusade, created a genuine sensation. In the clubs, offices, barrooms—wherever men met and exchanged views on public affairs—this subject was uppermost.

Chief Devery, however, like Dr. Parkhurst, refused to talk. The above statement of the president of the society was called forth by his personal or alleged indiscretions in an evening newspaper. This Dr. Parkhurst declared to be fraudulent, and added the words quoted.

The spurious interview has a thinly disguised wish of the Journal's statement from Superintendent Burr, recklessly placed in the mouth of Dr. Parkhurst, though his possession of the society could be relied upon as being authentic. There was nothing to add yesterday, except that the executive committee of the society could be relied upon as being authentic. There was nothing to add yesterday, except that the executive committee of the society could be relied upon as being authentic.

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## BG ROCK OVER A HOBSON PICTURE.

Rockwood Defeated for Election Because He Made a Copy.

TOOK IT WITHOUT ASKING.

Buffham, to Whom It Belonged, Had Not Copyrighted It, but His Friends Made Trouble.

Benjamin Falk and George Rockwood, who were President and Vice-President of the Photographers' League, retired from that body with a great show of indignation at the annual meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel on Tuesday night. Fellow-members say they were angry because they were not re-elected, and that Mr. Rockwood's failure to be vice-president again was because he employed methods in his business that the League does not approve.